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Agenda items 15 and 16

The situation in the Middle East

Question of Palestine

Security Council
Sixty-fifth year

Letter dated 31 May 2010 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia, I would like to convey herewith the text of the statement of my Government condemning the Israeli raid and act of violence against the *Mavi Marmara*, which was carrying international humanitarian assistance to the Gaza Strip, Palestine, and that the Government of Indonesia will work closely with the international community to ensure that Israel is held accountable for its action in accordance with international law (see annex).

I would also like to request that the text be made available as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 15 and 16, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Hasan **Kleib**
Ambassador, Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the letter dated 31 May 2010 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

Statement by the Government of the Republic of Indonesia

31 May 2010

The Government of the Republic of Indonesia condemns the Israeli raid and act of violence against the *Mavi Marmara*, which was carrying international humanitarian assistance to the Gaza Strip, Palestine, on 31 May 2010. Based on the information from the Palestinian authority there are as many as 16 confirmed deaths in this raid.

The unilateral Israeli blockade against the Gaza Strip since January 2009 constitutes a violation of international law and has caused immense sufferings among innocent Palestinians.

The Israeli raid against the *Mavi Marmara* is also illegal as it was carried out in international waters.

Through the aforementioned raid and violence, Israel has once again created additional hurdles to the Middle East process, which is currently entering a crucial phase with the launching of the "proximity talks", as conveyed by President Mahmoud Abbas in his visit to Indonesia on 29 May 2010.

The Government of Indonesia will cooperate with the international community to ensure that Israel is held accountable for its action in accordance with international law. Specifically, Indonesia urges the United Nations to discharge its responsibilities in accordance with its Charter, including through investigation of the Israeli attack in order to ensure its accountability.

The Government of Turkey confirmed that there are 12 Indonesian nationals on board that vessel.

From recent information, the vessel is currently being directed to Ashdod port, approximately 40 kilometres south of Tel Aviv.

The Government of Indonesia continues to ascertain the fate of its nationals who reportedly have taken part in the mission.